

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 - 17 (canceled)

- 1 Claim 18 (currently amended): A method of determining resource placement, comprising:
- 2 determining a set of business objectives plurality of assessment criteria for assessing each
- 3 of a plurality of candidate locations for resource placement placing resources for a product:
- 4 ——— developing one or more objective measurements for each business objective;
- 5 ——— performing value chain analyses related to the set of business objectives, thereby
- 6 determining what resources will potentially improve the analyzed value chain;
- 7 ——— developing cost factors for costs of placing the determined resources in the candidate
- 8 locations;
- 9 creating a product profile for the product, the product profile comprising an importance
- 10 value assigned to each of a first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of a second
- 11 plurality of the assessment criteria, the first plurality pertaining to local skills for the product and
- 12 the second plurality pertaining to a marketplace of the product;
- 13 creating a geography profile for each of the candidate locations, each geography profile
- 14 comprising a score assigned to each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of
- 15 the second plurality of the assessment criteria, each score in each of the geography profiles
- 16 assigned to indicate how well the candidate location meets the assessment criterion to which the
- 17 score is assigned;
- 18 using computer-readable program code executed by a computer to programmatically
- 19 compute a skills gap score for each of the candidate locations, further comprising:

computing a plurality of skills gap values for the candidate location by subtracting

for each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria, the score assigned to the assessment

criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location from the importance value assigned to

the assessment criterion in the product profile; and

summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed skills gap

values to yield the skills gap score for the candidate location:

using computer-readable program code executed by the computer to programmatically,

compute an opportunity gap score for each of the candidate locations, further comprising:

computing a plurality of opportunity gap values for the candidate location by

subtracting, for each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, the importance value

assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile from the score assigned to the

assessment criterion in the geographical profile for the candidate locations; and

examining, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed opportunity

...and to tell the most interesting stories for the world to hear and learn.

¹ See also the discussion of the effect of the quality of the underlying data in Section 4.

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42 _____ using the location-specific scores and corresponding ones of the importance values
43 to compute a plurality of gap values for each of the candidate locations; and
44 _____ for each of the candidate locations, using the computed gap values and the
45 developed cost factors to yield the value for placing the resources in the candidate location;
46 using computer-readable program code executed by the computer to programmatically
47 select a particular location from among the candidate locations for placing the resources, based on
48 the programmatically-computed value for placing the resources in skills gap score for each of the
49 candidate locations and the programmatically-computed opportunity gap score for each of the
50 candidate locations[[;]], and
51 _____ assigning the determined resources to the programmatically-selected particular location.

Claim 19 (canceled)

1 Claim 20 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the assigned
2 resources are information technology personnel.

1 Claim 21 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the assigned
2 resources comprise monetary investments in the particular location.

Claims 22 - 27 (canceled)

1 Claim 28 (currently amended): A system for assigning resources, comprising:

2 a computer comprising a processor and a memory;

3 a plurality of assessment criteria, stored in the memory, set of business objectives for

4 assessing each of a plurality of candidate locations for resource placement placing resources for a

5 product;

6 ——— one or more objective measurements for each business objective;

7 ——— results of value chain analyses performed related to the set of business objectives, the

8 results usable for determining what resources will potentially improve the analyzed value chain;

9 ——— cost factors for costs of placing the determined resources in the candidate locations;

10 a product profile for the product, the product profile stored in the memory and comprising

11 an importance value assigned to each of a first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of a

12 second plurality of the assessment criteria, the first plurality pertaining to local skills for the

13 product and the second plurality pertaining to a marketplace of the product;

14 a geography profile for each of the candidate locations, each geography profile stored in

15 the memory and comprising a score assigned to each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria

16 and to each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, each score in each of the geography

17 profiles assigned to indicate how well the candidate location meets the assessment criterion to

18 which the score is assigned; and

19 instructions which are executable on the computer, using the processor, to implement

20 functions comprising:

21 programmatically computing a skills gap score for each of the candidate locations,

22 further comprising:

23 computing a plurality of skills gap values for the candidate location by

24 subtracting, for each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria, the score assigned to the
25 assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location from the importance value
26 assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile; and

27 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed skills
28 gap values to yield the skills gap score for the candidate location;

29 programmatically computing an opportunity gap score for each of the candidate
30 locations, further comprising:

31 computing a plurality of opportunity gap values for the candidate location
32 by subtracting, for each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, the importance value
33 assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile from the score assigned to the
34 assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location; and

35 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed
36 opportunity gap values to yield the opportunity gap score for the candidate location; and

37 programmatically computing a value for placing the resources in each of the
38 candidate locations using the business objectives, according to the developed objective
39 measurements, and the developed cost factors, further comprising:

40 determining an importance value for a first plurality of the business
41 objectives;

42 determining, for a second plurality of the business objectives, a location-
43 specific score for each of the candidate locations that reflects how well the candidate location
44 meets the second plurality of business objectives;

45 using the location-specific scores and corresponding ones of the importance

46 values to compute a plurality of gap values for each of the candidate locations; and
47 _____ for each of the candidate locations, using the computed gap values and the
48 developed cost factors to yield the value for placing the resources in the candidate location; and
49 using the programmatically-computed value to programmatically selecting select a
50 particular location from among the candidate locations for placing the resources, based on the
51 programmatically-computed skills gap score for each of the candidate locations and the
52 programmatically-computed opportunity gap score for value for placing the resources in each of
53 the candidate locations; thereby enabling assignment of the determined resources for placement in
54 the programmatically-selected particular location.

Claims 29 - 32 (canceled)

1 Claim 33 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein programmatically
2 selecting a particular location further comprises selecting the candidate location for which a cost
3 of placing the resources in the candidate location is lowest.

Claim 34 (canceled)

1 Claim 35 (previously presented): The system according to Claim 28, wherein programmatically
2 selecting a particular location further comprises selecting the candidate location for which a cost
3 of placing the resources in the candidate location is lowest.

1 Claim 36 (currently amended): A computer program product for determining resource placement,
2 the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-usable storage media and
3 comprising computer-readable program code for:

4 retrieving a plurality of assessment criteria programmatically computing a value for placing
5 resources in each of a plurality of candidate locations using a set of business objectives for
6 assessing each of [[the]] a plurality of candidate locations for resource placement, according to
7 one or more objective measurements developed for each business objective, and cost factors
8 developed for costs of placing the resources in the candidate locations; the resources determined
9 by performing value chain analyses related to the set of business objectives to identify what
10 resources will potentially improve the analyzed value chain, further comprising: placing resources
11 for a product;

12 creating a product profile for the product, the product profile comprising an importance
13 value assigned to each of a first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of a second
14 plurality of the assessment criteria, the first plurality pertaining to local skills for the product and
15 the second plurality pertaining to a marketplace of the product;

16 creating a geography profile for each of the candidate locations, each geography profile
17 comprising a score assigned to each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of
18 the second plurality of the assessment criteria, each score in each of the geography profiles
19 assigned to indicate how well the candidate location meets the assessment criterion to which the
20 score is assigned;

21 programmatically computing a skills gap score for each of the candidate locations, further
22 comprising:

23 computing a plurality of skills gap values for the candidate location by subtracting,
24 for each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria, the score assigned to the assessment
25 criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location from the importance value assigned to
26 the assessment criterion in the product profile; and

27 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed skills gap
28 values to yield the skills gap score for the candidate location;

29 programmatically computing an opportunity gap score for each of the candidate locations,
30 further comprising:

31 computing a plurality of opportunity gap values for the candidate location by
32 subtracting, for each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, the importance value
33 assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile from the score assigned to the
34 assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location; and

35 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed opportunity
36 gap values to yield the opportunity gap score for the candidate location; and

37 determining an importance value for a first plurality of the business objectives;
38 determining, for a second plurality of the business objectives, a location-specific
39 score for each of the candidate locations that reflects how well the candidate location meets the
40 second plurality of business objectives;

41 using the location-specific scores and corresponding ones of the importance values
42 to compute a plurality of gap values for each of the candidate locations; and

43 for each of the candidate locations, using the computed gap values and the
44 developed cost factors to yield the value for placing the resources in the candidate location; and

45 programmatically selecting a particular location from among the candidate locations for
46 placing the resources, based on the programmatically-computed skills gap score for each of the
47 candidate locations and the programmatically-computed opportunity gap score for value for
48 placing the resources in each of the candidate locations, for assigning the determined resources.

Claim 37 (canceled)

1 Claim 38 (previously presented): The computer program product according to Claim 36, wherein
2 programmatically selecting a particular location further comprises selecting the candidate location
3 for which a cost of placing the resources in the candidate location is lowest.

1 Claim 39 (new): The method according to Claim 18, further comprising placing the resources in
2 the programmatically-selected particular location.